

D4925
2.E25D1

S. C. STATE LIBRARY
PLANNING & GRANTS LIBRARY PRELIMINARY REPORT

POPULATION AND ECONOMIC STUDY

DARLINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Wilbur Smith and Associates
Consulting Engineers

PRELIMINARY REPORT
POPULATION AND ECONOMIC STUDY
DARLINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

prepared for
The Darlington County Development Board
under contract with the
South Carolina State Development Board

The preparation of this report
was financially aided through a federal
grant from the Department of Housing and
Urban Development, under the Urban Planning
Assistance Program authorized by Section
701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended.

by
Wilbur Smith and Associates
April, 1967

S. C. STATE LIBRARY

CONTENTS

<u>CHAPTER</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
1	POPULATION TRENDS	1
	Age and Sex Composition of Population	5
	Migration	11
	Education	18
	Income	26
	Current Population Estimates	30
	Population Projections	35
2	ECONOMIC TRENDS	44
	Labor Force and Employment	45
	Productivity	54
	Age and Sex Composition of Labor Force	57
	Retail, Wholesale, and Selected Service Sales	61
	Agriculture	69
	Miscellaneous Economic Indices	73
	Future Employment	77
3	EXISTING NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES	81
	Climate	81
	Public Utilities and Fuel Supply	82
	Water Supply	82
	Minerals and Raw Materials	83
	Transportation Facilities	83
	Technical Educational Facilities	84
	Recreational Facilities	85
4	SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	86

ILLUSTRATIONS

<u>FIGURE</u>		<u>FOLLOWS</u> <u>PAGE</u>
1	Population Distribution, 1966 Darlington County, South Carolina	35
2	Major Population Divisions and Future Population Distribution Darlington County, South Carolina	41
3	Changes in Selected Growth Indicators, 1964-1966 Darlington County, South Carolina	86

TABULATIONS

TABLE		PAGE
1	Population Growth of Selected Areas	2
2	Darlington County, Population Composition Urban-Rural, White-Nonwhite	6
3	White and Nonwhite Population by Selected Areas	7
4	Population Distribution by Age and Sex by Selected Areas 1940-1950-1960	8
5	Population Distribution by Sex by Selected Areas	12
6	Migration Trends, Darlington County 1950-1960	14
7	Vital Statistics, Darlington County	15
8	Age Group Comparisons, Darlington County, 1950-1960	17
9	Median School Years Completed, Male and Female, by Selected Areas, 1950-1960	19
10	Years of School Completed, Darlington County, 1960	21
11	School Enrollment, Darlington County	24
12	Average Daily Attendance	25
13	Income of Families and Unrelated Indi- viduals by Selected Areas	27
14	Nonwhite Income--Families and Unrelated Individuals	29

TABULATIONS (Cont'd)

TABLE		PAGE
15	Automobile Registrations by Selected Areas, 1950-1966	32
16	Motor Vehicle Registration and Population Estimates by Selected Areas	34
17	Population Projections, Darlington County	39
18	Population Distribution Darlington County and Major Divisions	42
19	Labor Force Estimates, Darlington County, 1950-1965	46
20	Average Monthly Employment and Total Annual Payroll Insured Employment, Darlington County	50
21	Major Employers--Darlington County, 1966 As of February, 1967	52
22	Productivity in Manufacturing by Selected Areas, 1954-1963	56
23	Composition of Labor Force, South Carolina and Darlington County, 1960	58
24	Ages of Persons in Labor Force, Darlington County, 1960	59
25	Retail Trade by Selected Areas, 1954-1963	62
26	Wholesale Trade by Selected Areas, 1954- 1963	65
27	Selected Services by Selected Areas, 1954- 1963	68

TABULATIONS (Cont'd)

TABLE		PAGE
28	Farm Statistics by Selected Areas	71
29	Farm Operators by Tenure and Color Selected Areas	72
30	Postal Receipts, Darlington County, South Carolina, 1964-1966	74
31	Assessed Valuation Darlington County	76
32	Employment Projections Darlington County	78

Chapter 1

POPULATION TRENDS

Darlington County

The population of Darlington County has slowly but steadily increased since 1900, as shown on Table 1. Between 1900 and 1960 the county enjoyed a 63 per cent increase in population as compared with an 83 per cent gain for the state. The national rate of increase for the same period was 135 per cent.

The populations of the two urban areas of the county, Darlington and Hartsville, have had significant increases. Darlington's has increased 122 per cent since 1900, and, omitting the abnormally high period from 1900 to 1910, Hartsville's has increased 170 per cent. Although the populations of these two cities have increased, the increases have become progressively smaller. Hartsville alone was an exception to this trend and then only during the 1950-1960 period. These dwindling gains for Darlington and Hartsville have been in contradiction to those for the state and the nation and have reflected the fact that the land areas of these two cities are becoming completely developed, with most recent (and probably future development as well) occurring outside but adjacent to the corporate boundaries.

Table I

POPULATION GROWTH OF SELECTED AREAS

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>UNITED STATES</u> (thousands)	<u>PER CENT CHANGE</u>	<u>SOUTH CAROLINA</u> (thousands)	<u>PER CENT CHANGE</u>	<u>DARLINGTON COUNTY</u>	<u>PER CENT CHANGE</u>	<u>ANNUAL PER CENT INCREASE</u>
1900	75,995		1,304		32,388		
		21.0		13.1		11.2	
1910	91,972		1,515		36,027		
		14.9		11.1		8.6	
1920	105,711		1,684		39,126		
		16.1		3.3		5.8	
1930	122,775		1,739		41,427		
		7.2		9.3		9.1	
1940	131,669		1,900		45,198		
		14.4		11.4		10.6	1.06
1950	150,697		2,117		50,016		
		18.4		12.5		5.8	.58
1960	178,464		2,383		52,928		

Table I (cont.)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CITY OF DARLINGTON</u>	<u>PER CENT CHANGE</u>	<u>ANNUAL PER CENT INCREASE</u>	<u>CITY OF HARTSVILLE</u>	<u>PER CENT CHANGE</u>	<u>ANNUAL PER CENT INCREASE</u>
1900	3,028			704		
		25.1			235.9	
1910	3,789			2,365		
		23.2			53.2	
1920	4,669			3,624		
		19.0			39.8	
1930	5,556			5,067		
		12.2			6.6	
1940	6,236			5,399		
		6.1	.61		4.8	.48
1950	6,619			5,658		
		1.4	.14		13.0	1.30
1960	6,710			6,392		

SOURCE: United States Census of Population.

Of the four counties surrounding Darlington County (Chesterfield, Florence, Lee, and Marlboro), only Florence County had an increase in population between 1950 and 1960 which compared favorably with Darlington County's 5.8 per cent. The remaining three counties had population losses varying from -5.8 per cent to -10.2 per cent.

The distribution of the population in Darlington County from 1930 to 1960 remained fairly static at approximately 25 per cent urban and 75 per cent rural. Again this reflected the steady but small increases in population throughout the county and further illustrated the small gains made by the two urban areas of the county, Darlington and Hartsville.

The racial composition of the population has undergone some significant changes. Since 1900, the white population has steadily increased while the nonwhite population (though increasing numerically) has decreased proportionately to the total population, mainly as a result of out-migration. In 1960, the racial composition was 55.6 per cent white and 44.4 per cent nonwhite. Of the four counties surrounding Darlington, Chesterfield had the largest white population in 1960 (62.9 per cent) and Lee County had the lowest (34.2 per cent). Florence County was 56.7 per cent white and Marlboro County was 51.2 per cent white.

The racial composition of Darlington County from 1900 to 1960 is shown on Table 2. Table 3 illustrates the racial composition of the populations of South Carolina, Darlington County, Darlington, and Hartsville.

The change in the racial composition of Darlington County reflects the social and economic changes being made in the county which are similar to changes being made in the state. As the farms and plantations become more mechanized and specialized, farm labor, especially nonwhite labor, is being released and forced to find employment elsewhere. Most of this labor is leaving the rural counties and migrating to the large urban areas, both inside and outside the state. Migration of nonwhite residents in southern states has for many years been occurring for various reasons other than changes in agricultural employment. Out migration of nonwhite residents has often created shortage of skilled and semi-skilled labor and could possibly seriously affect the supply of available labor in Darlington County if it continues.

Age and Sex Composition of Population

The age and sex composition of the population of Darlington County and its two urban centers has also undergone important changes. Table 4 illustrates the percentage distribution of the

Table 2

DARLINGTON COUNTY, POPULATION COMPOSITION

URBAN-RURAL, WHITE-NONWHITE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CENSUS</u>	<u>URBAN</u>	<u>PER</u> <u>CENT</u>	<u>RURAL</u>	<u>PER</u> <u>CENT</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>PER</u> <u>CENT</u>	<u>NON-WHITE</u>	<u>PER</u> <u>CENT</u>
1900	32,388	3,028	9.3	29,360	90.7	13,083	40.4	19,305	59.6
1910	36,027	3,789	10.5	32,238	89.5	14,741	40.9	21,286	59.1
1920	39,126	8,293	21.2	30,833	78.8	16,921	43.2	22,205	56.8
1930	41,427	10,623	25.6	30,804	74.4	19,815	47.8	21,612	52.2
1940	45,198	11,635	25.7	33,563	74.3	22,627	50.1	22,571	49.9
1950	50,016	12,277	24.5	37,739	75.5	26,794	53.6	23,222	46.4
1960	52,928	13,102	24.8	39,826	75.2	29,420	55.6	23,508	44.4

SOURCE: United States Census Population.

Table 3

WHITE AND NON-WHITE POPULATION
By
Selected Areas

SOUTH CAROLINA					DARLINGTON COUNTY			
Year	Total Population	White	Non- White	Per Cent Non- White	Total Population	White	Non- White	Per Cent Non- White
1900	1,304,316	557,807	782,509	58.4	32,388	13,083	19,305	59.6
1910	1,515,400	679,161	836,239	55.2	36,027	14,741	21,286	59.1
1920	1,683,724	818,538	865,186	51.4	39,126	16,921	22,205	56.8
1930	1,738,765	944,049	794,716	45.7	41,427	19,427	21,612	52.2
1940	1,899,804	1,084,308	815,496	42.9	45,198	22,627	22,571	49.9
1950	2,117,027	1,293,405	823,622	38.9	50,016	26,794	23,222	46.4
1960	2,382,594	1,551,022	831,572	34.9	52,928	29,420	23,508	44.4

CITY OF DARLINGTON					CITY OF HARTSVILLE			
Year	Total Population	White	Non- White	Per Cent Non- White	Total Population	White	Non- White	Per Cent Non- White
1930	5,556	2,984	2,572	46.3	5,067	3,091	1,976	40.0
1940	6,236	3,352	2,884	46.2	5,399	3,310	2,089	38.7
1950	6,619	3,584	3,035	45.9	5,658	3,732	1,926	34.0
1960	6,710	3,385	3,325	49.5	6,392	3,804	2,588	40.5

SOURCE: United States Census of Population.

Table 4

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY AGE AND SEX

By Selected Areas

1940-1950-1960

	SOUTH CAROLINA					
	Per Cent Male			Per Cent Female		
	1940	1950	1960	1940	1950	1960
Under 5 years	11.3	13.6	12.7	10.9	12.8	12.1
5-14 years	23.2	22.2	23.9	22.1	20.9	22.7
15-24 years	21.9	17.5	17.7	22.1	17.6	15.6
25-34 years	15.0	15.0	12.2	15.5	15.3	12.7
35-44 years	10.7	12.5	12.3	11.4	12.8	12.8
45-54 years	8.3	8.4	9.7	8.4	8.8	10.1
55-64 years	5.4	5.7	6.0	5.2	5.9	6.9
65 and Over	4.2	5.1	5.5	4.4	5.9	7.1

	DARLINGTON COUNTY					
	Per Cent Male			Per Cent Female		
	1940	1950	1960	1940	1950	1960
Under 5 years	12.2	15.1	13.3	11.6	13.7	12.4
5-14 years	24.3	24.2	27.5	23.1	22.1	24.7
15-24 years	22.0	17.0	15.3	22.9	18.3	15.8
25-34 years	15.5	14.4	11.3	15.2	14.6	12.1
35-44 years	9.8	12.2	12.1	10.5	12.6	12.1
45-54 years	7.6	7.5	9.7	7.7	8.1	9.9
55-64 years	4.8	5.1	5.7	4.7	5.3	6.4
65 and Over	3.8	4.5	5.1	4.3	5.3	6.6

	CITY OF DARLINGTON					
	Per Cent Male			Per Cent Female		
	1940	1950	1960	1940	1950	1960
Under 5 years	9.2	13.1	12.0	7.4	10.5	9.4
5-14 years	20.4	20.0	24.6	17.7	15.6	21.6
15-24 years	21.3	16.0	13.3	23.2	16.1	13.3
25-34 years	18.5	15.9	11.9	17.5	17.0	11.8
35-44 years	11.9	14.1	12.8	12.7	14.9	13.5
45-54 years	9.4	8.9	11.3	9.3	11.1	11.4
55-64 years	4.8	7.1	6.7	6.0	7.1	9.1
65 and Over	4.5	4.9	7.4	6.2	7.7	9.9

Table 4 - Continued

	CITY OF HARTSVILLE					
	Per Cent Male			Per Cent Female		
	1940	1950	1960	1940	1950	1960
Under 5 years	10.3	13.4	12.3	8.7	10.1	10.2
5-14 years	20.4	18.2	24.1	17.7	15.3	19.3
15-24 years	19.1	16.6	12.0	23.1	22.2	18.7
25-34 years	21.2	17.1	12.6	20.9	15.7	12.4
35-44 years	13.2	14.8	13.1	12.7	15.3	11.6
45-54 years	8.3	9.7	12.1	8.6	9.2	12.1
55-64 years	4.7	5.6	7.2	4.6	6.3	7.3
65 and Over	2.8	4.6	6.6	3.7	5.9	8.4

SOURCE: United States Census of Population

male and female population by age groups for the state, Darlington County, Darlington, and Hartsville since 1940. The table shows that a greater proportion of the areas populations, excepting that of the state, are in the younger and older age groupings; the very productive 15-44 year age group for both male and female is decreasing at a noticeable rate. It is normal for the population of an area to have an increase in the under 5 and over 65 year age groupings since the mortality rate among infants and the elderly is decreasing. It is a sign of considerable out-migration when the percentage of population in the 15-44 year age groupings continually decreases. These years are considered the productive ones of a person's life and are normally the years during which one will seek employment, marry, purchase and maintain a home.

A continuing decrease in the 15-44 year age groupings could indicate that Darlington County lacks the sufficient economic, social, and employment opportunities which would retain its young citizens. It is felt, however, that the out-migration of the 15-44 year age groupings has been materially halted in the past few years after the Darlington County Development Board began its program of industrial development within the county.

Unfortunately, current census information is not available to verify this assumption, but other data reflecting the enormous improvements made in the county since 1964 are available and will be discussed elsewhere in this report.

The distribution of the population by sex is shown in Table 5, which illustrates that females outnumber males, and that the distribution has remained fairly constant since 1940. This probably reflects the fact that males have been leaving the county for greater economic opportunity elsewhere. While every effort should be made to reverse this trend, the county could use and has used the existing distribution to its advantage in attracting industries, such as garment manufacturing, which employ large numbers of females.

Migration

Birth and death records and previous census figures are used in analyzing the migration trends of an area. If the natural increase in population (births minus deaths) for a given period, added to a base year population, produces a population which is greater than the actual population, then out-migration has occurred. If the opposite is true, then in-migration has

Table 5

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY SEX

By Selected Areas

	SOUTH CAROLINA				DARLINGTON COUNTY			
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>
1940	935,239	49.2	964,565	50.8	22,074	48.8	23,124	51.2
1950	1,040,540	49.2	1,076,487	50.8	24,338	48.7	25,678	51.3
1960	1,175,818	49.4	1,206,776	50.6	25,480	48.1	27,448	51.9

	CITY OF DARLINGTON				CITY OF HARTSVILLE			
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>
1940	2,872	46.1	3,364	53.9	2,571	47.6	2,828	52.4
1950	3,100	46.8	3,519	53.2	2,554	45.1	3,104	54.9
1960	3,040	45.3	3,670	54.7	2,825	44.2	3,567	55.8

SOURCE: United States Census of Population

occurred. In Darlington County there has been considerable out-migration of the population, usually of the most productive age group.

Vital statistics obtained from the South Carolina Department of Health show that the natural population increase in Darlington County between 1950 and 1960 amounted to 10,269. If this figure is added to the 1950 census population of 50,016, the 1960 census population would have been 60,285 rather than 52,928 as actually recorded. This means that 7,357 more persons out-migrated from Darlington County between 1950 and 1960 than in-migrated. Out-migration has been far greater in the nonwhite population than in the white population, as shown on Table 6.

Birth and death records for Darlington County are shown in Table 7. White and nonwhite births have been decreasing over the past 16 years, a fact directly related to the out-migration of the childbearing population. This is probably caused by the consolidation and mechanization of farms within the county which are releasing large numbers of farm labor who generally lack the skills and education needed to obtain other work in the county. Out-migration is also probably due in great part to

Table 6
MIGRATION TRENDS, DARLINGTON COUNTY
1950 - 1960

	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>NONWHITE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1950 Population ⁽¹⁾	26,794	23,222	50,016
Natural Population Increase ⁽²⁾	4,504	5,765	10,269
Expected 1960 Population	31,298	28,987	60,285
Actual 1960 Population ⁽¹⁾	29,420	23,508	52,928
Population Loss From Migration	1,878	5,479	7,357

(1) U. S. Census of Population.

(2) South Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Table 7
VITAL STATISTICS
Darlington County

Year	BIRTHS			DEATHS		
	Total Births	White	Non-White	Total	White	Non-White
1950	1,520	698	822	438	179	259
1951	1,596	757	839	440	182	258
1952	1,594	707	887	563	246	317
1953	1,590	707	883	473	219	254
1954	1,704	721	983	485	220	265
1955	1,618	705	913	519	258	261
1956	1,499	676	823	469	233	236
1957	1,484	678	806	508	246	262
1958	1,326	617	709	507	264	243
1959	1,280	575	705	540	290	250
TOTAL						
1950-1959	15,211	6,841	8,370	4,942	2,337	2,605
1960	1,381	630	751	502	251	251
1961	1,381	677	704	501	234	267
1962	1,356	663	693	483	238	245
1963	1,211	586	625	492	253	239
1964	1,313	667	646	498	293	205
1965	1,134	569	565	517	305	212
TOTAL						
1960-1965	7,776	3,792	3,984	2,993	1,574	1,419

SOURCE: South Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

established migration trends of nonwhite and low income residents of southern states - trends over which local officials and leaders have very little control. Other examples of migration trends in Darlington County are evident in an examination of 1950 and 1960 census data.

Out-migration is generally higher among the youth age groups of 5-19 years and the corresponding adult age groups of 35-39 years, which probably represents family units leaving the county for reasons first stated. Net in-migration occurred only in the white male age group of 20-24 years. In 1950 this group totaled 954, and in 1960 the 30-34 year old group totaled 957, a net gain of 3. This could represent an unusual or unique condition in the county during the years of 1950-1960 considering that out-migration occurred in the lower and higher age groupings.

Table 8, a tabulation of 1950 age groupings with corresponding 1960 age groupings, illustrates the trends of out-migration during this 10 year period. The 1950 age group is reported first, and the 1960 corresponding age group second.

Table 8

AGE GROUP COMPARISONS

Darlington County

1950-1960

	AGE GROUP	TOTAL	WHITE		NON-WHITE	
			Male	Female	Male	Female
1950	5 - 9	6,147	1,489	1,415	1,638	1,605
1960	15 - 19	<u>4,985</u>	<u>1,221</u>	<u>1,345</u>	<u>1,201</u>	<u>1,218</u>
		-1,162	-268	-70	-437	-387
1950	10 - 14	5,417	1,278	1,239	1,492	1,408
1960	20 - 24	<u>3,246</u>	<u>821</u>	<u>1,087</u>	<u>643</u>	<u>695</u>
		-2,171	-457	-152	-849	-713
1950	15 - 19	4,851	1,124	1,260	1,186	1,281
1960	25 - 29	<u>2,978</u>	<u>895</u>	<u>966</u>	<u>465</u>	<u>652</u>
		-1,873	-229	-294	-721	-629
1950	20 - 24	3,994	954	1,104	874	1,062
1960	30 - 34	<u>3,223</u>	<u>957</u>	<u>1,035</u>	<u>554</u>	<u>677</u>
		-771	+3	-69	-320	-385
1950	25 - 29	3,921	1,120	1,170	735	896
1960	35 - 39	<u>3,301</u>	<u>1,049</u>	<u>1,090</u>	<u>503</u>	<u>659</u>
		-620	-71	-80	-232	-237
1950	30 - 34	3,334	994	1,012	647	681
1960	40 - 44	<u>3,114</u>	<u>969</u>	<u>991</u>	<u>572</u>	<u>582</u>
		-220	-25	-21	-75	-99
1950	35 - 39	3,416	957	1,024	638	797
1960	45 - 49	<u>2,841</u>	<u>848</u>	<u>901</u>	<u>491</u>	<u>601</u>
		-575	-109	-123	-147	-196
1950	40 - 44	2,774	867	848	499	560
1960	50 - 54	<u>2,345</u>	<u>764</u>	<u>779</u>	<u>358</u>	<u>444</u>
		-429	-103	-69	-140	-116
1950	45 - 49	2,111	606	651	395	459
1960	55 - 59	<u>1,796</u>	<u>518</u>	<u>616</u>	<u>301</u>	<u>361</u>
		-315	-88	-35	-94	-98
1950	50 - 54	1,784	516	561	313	394
1960	60 - 64	<u>1,420</u>	<u>415</u>	<u>496</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>293</u>
		-364	-101	-65	-97	-101

SOURCE: United States Census of Population

Education

Of vital importance to the economy and the general well-being of an area is the level of education attained by its population. This is of utmost importance today as South Carolina becomes more industrialized. Job opportunities are requiring skilled labor or labor which is capable of being trained to perform functions required. The industrial plants now locating or expanding in all sections of the state require skilled labor for their functions or labor that is capable of being trained. In South Carolina the educational attainments of the adult population (25 years old and over) is gradually rising but is still below the national level. Table 9, a tabulation of the median number of school years completed by those of 25 years old and over, depicts the gains made by the areas included.

Darlington County, while far below the national educational level of the adult population, is doing better than three of its neighboring counties. Florence County, which is more urbanized than Darlington County, is only slightly ahead of Darlington in the educational level of its adult population. In Darlington County the supply of skilled labor or labor possessing adequate education and the will to work is approaching

Table 9

MEDIAN SCHOOL YEARS COMPLETED, MALE AND FEMALE

By Selected Areas

1950-1960

UNITED	SOUTH	<u>SELECTED COUNTIES</u>					
<u>STATES</u>	<u>CAROLINA</u>	<u>Darlington</u>	<u>Chesterfield</u>	<u>Florence</u>	<u>Lee</u>	<u>Marlboro</u>	

MALE, 25 YEARS OLD AND OVER

1950	9.0	7.3	6.3	6.0	7.0	5.4	5.5
1960	10.3	8.4	7.6	7.0	8.0	6.6	6.9

FEMALE, 25 YEARS OLD AND OVER

1950	9.6	7.9	7.3	7.0	8.1	6.4	6.6
1960	10.7	9.1	8.6	8.1	8.9	7.7	7.8

the critical stage, according to information supplied by the local sources. Industrial development and expansion in the county have created job opportunities for both men and women, and at the present time the available supply of qualified labor is low. If this situation is not remedied, labor from outside areas will have to be brought in, or the industrial and commercial growth of the county will not progress as it should.

Table 10 illustrates the number of years of school completed by the adult population in 1960 for the white and nonwhite population of Darlington County. As might be expected, the white population has generally spent more years past the eighth grade. In the secondary and college years completed, 55.4 per cent of the white population has completed one year of high school or more, as contrasted with only 20.3 per cent for the nonwhite population.

A factor which may possibly account for the relatively low educational level of the adult population in South Carolina and Darlington County is the absence of an effective compulsory school attendance law. A tabulation of school age population in Darlington County (ages 6-17) for 1950 totaled 13,345. School enrollment figures for 1950 supplied by the State Board of

Table 10

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED
Darlington County
1960

	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>PER CENT</u>	<u>NON-WHITE</u>	<u>PER CENT</u>
Persons 25 years Old and Over	15,251	100.0	8,834	100.0
No School Years Completed	399	2.7	738	8.4
Elementary:				
1 to 4 years	1,711	11.3	2,958	33.5
5 and 6 years	1,825	11.9	1,740	19.7
7 years	1,496	9.8	892	10.1
8 years	1,359	8.9	709	8.0
High School:				
1 to 3 years	2,935	19.2	857	9.7
4 years	3,104	20.3	532	6.0
College:				
1 to 3 years	1,233	8.1	148	1.7
4 years or more	1,189	7.8	260	2.9

SOURCE: U. S. Census of Population, 1960.

Education totaled 11,922, or 1,423 less than the school age population. This indicates that 10.7 per cent of the school age population was not enrolled in school during 1950. In 1960 the difference between school age population and enrollment had increased to 11.7 per cent.

A recent study of school dropouts in South Carolina schools revealed that of the total number of students beginning school in the 1953-1954 school year in Darlington County, only 49.3 per cent of the white students and 27.5 per cent of the nonwhite students graduated from high school in 1964-1965.⁽¹⁾ Of the neighboring counties the rates were 40.6 per cent white graduates and 21.3 per cent nonwhite in Chesterfield County; 45.4 per cent white graduates in Florence County and 23.4 per cent nonwhite; 49.4 per cent white and 14.7 per cent nonwhite in Lee County; and in Marlboro County the ratio was 38.4 per cent white graduates and 20.4 per cent nonwhite graduates. Dropouts occur for various reasons; however, the above mentioned study apparently did not consider out-migration factors in the counties, which, to a great extent, would affect the number of students of high school age, especially in the nonwhite groups.

(1) Dropouts in South Carolina Schools, South Carolina Department of Education, Dr. W. B. Royster, Director Division of research, Experimentation and Surveys, pp 22 and 23.

School enrollment figures for Darlington County are shown on Table 11. Enrollment between 1940 and 1965 varied throughout these years, but it is interesting to note from this table that enrollment figures for grades 7-12 did increase between 1940 and 1965, especially among the nonwhite students. If these trends continue, the county could have an educated labor force, which could be a deciding factor in securing new or expanded commercial and industrial activity.

Recent school attendance figures for individual grades in Darlington County are shown in Table 12. The decreasing attendance figures in the first grade follow national trends of a decreasing birth rate, but it is interesting and important to note that attendance in several grades increased from one year to the next. In the 1965-66 school year, average daily attendance figures in grades four and six were greater than the attendance figures in grades three and five during the 1964-1965 school year. This could represent a vigorous enforcement of the existing school attendance law or an in-migration of new families to the county. It will be important to study the 1966-67 school attendance figures when they are available to determine

Table 11
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT
Darlington County

<u>GRADES</u> <u>1-6</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>NON-</u> <u>WHITE</u>	<u>GRADES</u> <u>7-12</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>NON-</u> <u>WHITE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>WHITE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>NONWHITE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>ENROLLMENT</u>
1940	3,863	4,967	-	1,768	861	5,631	5,828	11,459
1950	3,768	4,358	-	2,194	1,602	5,962	5,960	11,922
1960	4,318	4,805	-	2,985	2,436	7,303	7,241	14,544
1965	4,069	4,796	-	3,521	3,246	7,590	8,042	15,632

SOURCE: South Carolina Department of Education.

whether this might be a continuing trend (thereby indicating in-migration) or whether the 1965-1966 school year was influenced by a unique condition not likely to repeat itself.

Table 12

AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE

Darlington County, S. C.

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>SCHOOL YEAR</u>		
	<u>1963-1964</u>	<u>1964-1965</u>	<u>1965-1966</u>
1	1,454	1,270	1,241
2	1,282	1,335	1,237
3	1,337	1,275	1,327
4	1,310	1,328	1,291
5	1,313	1,267	1,312
6		1,298	1,296
7			1,294

SOURCE: South Carolina Department of Education

Income

Table 13, a tabulation of income levels of families and unrelated individuals for 1949 and 1959, shows that 76.7 per cent of this group in Darlington County had an annual income of less than \$3,000 in 1949. Forty per cent of the families and unrelated individuals subsisted on incomes of less than \$1,000 in 1949. These figures closely parallel South Carolina's 1949 income figures. Income levels in the City of Darlington were only slightly higher, while the level of income in Hartsville was considerably higher than those of Darlington, the county, or the state.

Nonwhite income in Darlington County in 1949, as might be expected, was considerably below the white income. Fully 96.7 per cent of the nonwhite families and unrelated individuals had incomes of less than \$3,000, while 63.2 per cent had incomes of less than \$1,000. This is tabulated on Table 14.

In 1959 improvements had been made, but income levels were still low. On a county level, 47.3 per cent of all families and unrelated individuals had incomes under \$3,000 a year compared with 48.5 per cent for the state, 42.4 per cent for the City of Darlington, and 27.5 per cent for the City of Hartsville.

Table 13

INCOME OF FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS

By Selected Areas

FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS	SOUTH CAROLINA				DARLINGTON COUNTY			
	1949	Per Cent	1959	Per Cent	1949	Per Cent	1959	Per Cent
Number Reporting(1949) (All Families 1959)	552,555	100.0	681,393	100.0	11,955	100.0	11,555	100.0
Under \$1,000	195,295	35.3	148,797	21.8	4,790	40.0	2,272	19.7
\$1,000-1,999	120,660	21.8	95,758	14.1	2,615	21.8	1,663	14.4
\$2,000-2,999	91,770	16.6	86,191	12.6	1,785	14.9	1,532	13.2
\$3,000-3,999	61,490	11.1	79,717	11.7	1,285	10.8	1,345	11.6
\$4,000-5,999	56,925	10.3	122,107	17.9	1,025	8.6	1,089	9.4
\$6,000-6,999	10,075	1.8	44,885	6.6	190	1.6	923	8.0
\$7,000-9,999	9,860	1.8	67,636	10.0	160	1.4	1,778	15.4
\$10,000 and Over	6,480	1.2	36,302	5.3	105	.9	953	8.3
Median Income-Families and Unrelated Individuals	\$ 1,647		\$ 3,125		\$1,400		\$2,771	

Table 13 (cont.)

FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS	CITY OF DARLINGTON				CITY OF HARTSVILLE			
	1949	Per Cent	1959	Per Cent	1949	Per Cent	1959	Per Cent
Number Reporting (1949) (All Families 1959)	2,035	100.0	1,590	100.0	1,785	100.0	1,471	100.0
Under \$1,000	655	32.2	181	11.4	465	26.1	122	8.3
\$1,000 - \$1,999	535	26.3	242	15.2	330	18.5	142	9.6
\$2,000 - \$2,999	360	17.7	252	15.8	295	16.5	142	9.6
\$3,000 - \$3,999	245	12.0	210	13.2	260	14.6	169	11.5
\$4,000 - \$5,999	140	6.9	241	15.2	285	16.0	347	23.6
\$6,000 - \$6,999	20	1.0	124	7.8	65	3.6	110	7.5
\$7,000 - \$9,999	50	2.4	232	14.6	45	2.5	213	14.5
\$10,000 and Over	30	1.5	108	6.8	40	2.2	226	15.4
Median Income Families and Unrelated Individuals	\$1,675		\$2,875		\$2,325		\$3,504	

SOURCE: United States Census of Population.

Table 14

NON-WHITE INCOME - FAMILIES AND
UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS

Darlington County

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>PER CENT</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>PER CENT</u>
Number Reporting (1949)				
All Families (1959)	4,990	100.0	4,251	100.0
Under \$1,000	3,155	63.2	1,679	39.5
\$1,000 - \$1,999	1,285	25.8	1,026	24.1
\$2,000 - \$2,999	385	7.7	715	16.8
\$3,000 - \$3,999	110	2.2	371	8.7
\$4,000 - \$5,999	35	0.7	260	6.1
\$6,000 - \$6,999	10	0.2	89	2.1
\$7,000 - \$9,999	10	0.2	83	2.0
\$10,000 and Over	-	-	28	0.7
Median Income - Families and Unrelated Individuals	\$761		\$1,230	

SOURCE: United States Census of Population

Nonwhite income levels improved by 1959 but were still extremely low, with 80.4 per cent of the families and unrelated individuals having had annual incomes below \$3,000 and 39.5 per cent having had annual incomes below \$1,000.

Current Population Estimates

Current population estimates, as well as future population projections, are vital to any planning program. Efforts were made to formulate a 1965 population estimate in order to determine the population trends of the county since the 1960 census was conducted.

There are several sources of information such as residential electrical and telephone connections and motor vehicle registrations, which are frequently used to determine growth in an area. Efforts were made to obtain this information from local and state sources, but the information was generally found to be unavailable, due in part to the record-keeping methods of the utility companies involved and not to an unwillingness to supply this information. The South Carolina State Highway Department was able to and did furnish motor vehicle registrations from which current population estimates could be formulated.

Automobile registrations are summarized in Table 15.

Registrations in Darlington County have not increased as rapidly as those in the state as a whole. Between 1950 and 1960, passenger car registrations in the county increased more rapidly than registrations in three of the four surrounding counties. Only Florence County, which has a much greater population than Darlington County, had a greater percentage increase than Darlington County; however, this increase was only seven per cent greater than Darlington's increase. Between 1960 and 1965, the county experienced an 11.9 per cent increase in automobile registrations, which was surpassed by three of the four counties surrounding Darlington County. However, between 1965 and 1966, the county experienced a substantial increase, which was in line with the increase in the state and was only surpassed by Florence County of the four surrounding counties. This large increase again reflects the improving economic health of the county.

Apparently, the population of the county is increasing and per capita and family income is rapidly rising. A substantial increase in automobile registrations would not necessarily mean a corresponding increase in population but rather a more definite increase in income levels. This is likely to be the case in

Table 15
AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS

1950-1966

By Selected Areas

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>PER CENT INCREASE 1950-1960</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>PER CENT INCREASE 1960-1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>PER CENT INCREASE 1965-1966</u>
Darlington County	10,415	15,010	44.1	16,789	11.9	17,710	5.5
Chesterfield County	6,529	9,374	43.6	11,493	22.6	11,925	3.8
Florence County	16,087	23,669	47.2	27,974	18.2	29,558	5.7
Lee County	3,668	4,586	25.0	4,860	6.0	5,123	5.4
Marlboro County	5,520	7,617	38.0	8,595	12.8	8,853	2.9
South Carolina (thousands)	450	724	61.0	859	18.7	907	5.6

SOURCE: South Carolina State Highway Department

Darlington County. The ambitious and effective program of the County Development Board has resulted in greater incomes for a large segment of the population. Individuals and families who heretofore could not afford automobiles have purchased and are maintaining automobiles. The ratio of persons per automobile in the county, however, is felt to be decreasing at a slower rate than the ratio in the state as a whole. The county still has a relatively high nonwhite population and also a high proportion of females, which would tend to make the ratio reduction in persons per automobile less than the state ratios.

By allocating what is felt to be a reasonable ratio of persons per automobile for 1965 and 1966, a 1965 population estimate of 53,700 persons was arrived at, while the estimate for 1966 increased to 54,900, as shown in Table 16. These estimates of current population are generally in line with the population forecast by the natural increase and migration method discussed in the following pages. However, this forecast might prove to be too conservative if the trend of automobile registrations continues at such a substantial annual increase, reflecting a continued and accelerated growth in economic and social conditions within the county.

Table 16

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND POPULATION ESTIMATES

By Selected Areas

	SOUTH CAROLINA				DARLINGTON COUNTY			
	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>
Automobiles	449,524	723,627	858,630	907,033	10,415	15,010	16,789	17,710
Population	2,117,027	2,382,594	2,543,000	2,721,100	50,016	52,928	53,700	54,900
Persons Per Automobile	4.7	3.3	3.0	3.0	4.8	3.5	3.2	3.1

SOURCE: Motor Vehicle Registration: South Carolina State Department of Highways.
Population: 1950, 1960 U.S. Bureau of the Census;
South Carolina, 1965 Population Estimates,
Series P-25, No. 326, Feb.7, 1966,
U.S. Bureau of the Census.

The 1966 population distribution of the county is shown in Figure I. The information for this figure was obtained from the land-use survey done in the county during the fall of 1966. Omitted from this land-use survey was the incorporated area of Hartsville and the planning area of the City of Darlington. The City of Hartsville does not presently have a planning program under contract, while the City of Darlington's program is being prepared by the State Development Board.

Population Projections

Before an area can plan for its future, it must have a reasonably accurate idea of its anticipated population and the areas that are expected to develop. The County School Board should know how many students to expect in the future years so that it may adequately schedule its building program. The County Commissioners need to know the size and location of future population so that capital funds required for essential future services can be allocated. The county engineers need to acquire and safeguard future street and utility rights-of-way prior to the saturated development of these areas.

FIGURE 1

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION
1966

DARLINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

The population of an area increases when there are more births than deaths (natural increase) or when more people move into the area than move out (in-migration). In Darlington County, the natural increase of the population has been high, but out-migration of the population has severely dampened the population gains made during the past 30 years.

In projecting the future population of Darlington County, four methods were used. The first and simplest is to project the future population based on past county rates of growth. Rates of growth of the periods 1950-1960, 1940-1960, and 1930-1960 were used and produced 1985 population projections of 60,964, 65,107, and 66,170, respectively. The second and third methods of projecting the population relate the future population of the county to the projected population of larger, or parent areas. Population projections of South Carolina and the United States are periodically prepared by the Bureau of the Census. With these projections, it is then possible to project the future population of Darlington County by using historic county population percentages of the parent area. In 1960 the county represented 2.2 per cent of the state population and .30 per cent of the national population.

If these ratios are maintained, the 1985 county population could be 72,446 (state ratio) or 79,673 (United States ratio).

The average of the percentages of Darlington County population to the parent areas from 1930-1960 was also used for projecting the population. These ratios produced a 1985 population of 75,739 (state) and 87,640 (nation). These second and third methods (using projections related to future population of parent areas) produce higher projections than the first method because the population of the nation and the state have been and are projected to grow faster than the population of Darlington County.

The fourth and final method used to project population is based on projection of natural increase and migration. The natural increase per 1,000 persons in Darlington County between 1950 and 1960 was 15.3 per 1,000 persons for white population and 24.5 per 1,000 persons for the nonwhite population. If the county had been able to retain its existing population plus the natural increase, a substantially higher 1960 population would have resulted; however, considerable out-migration occurred, in both the white and nonwhite population. The county was able to retain only 58.3 per cent of the anticipated white increase and 5.0 per cent of the nonwhite increase. This resulted in a net increase of 8.9 persons per thousand for the white population between 1950-1960 and only 1.2 persons per thousand for the non-white population.

It is anticipated that the county should be able to reduce the amount of out-migration in future years by increasing local job opportunities, as it is now doing. Population projections to 1985 are based on this assumption and an actual increase is forecast of between 8.9 and 15.0 persons per 1,000 population for the white segment and between 1.2 and 5.0 persons per 1,000 population for the nonwhite segment. This would produce a total 1985 population of 64,555, of which 60.7 per cent would be white and 39.3 per cent nonwhite.

The four population projections are tabulated on Table 17. The fourth method, comparing the natural increase and migration trends with the actual increase is felt to be the most realistic projection, inasmuch as it places more emphasis on local conditions, both past and present. Therefore, this projection will be used as the future population estimate in all further discussions. Conditions on a national, state, regional, or local level, however, could substantially change and either reduce or increase the future population. A summary of all four forecast methods on Table 17 shows that the 1985 population could range between 58,719 and 87,640 but should realistically approach 65,000, a 22 per cent increase over the 1960 population.

Table 17
POPULATION PROJECTIONS
Darlington County

METHOD

I Projection Based on Past Rate of Change.

Rate of Change Same as that of 1950-1960 (5.8 per cent)

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
54,460	55,998	59,246	60,964

Rate of Change Same as that of 1940-1960 (8.6 per cent)

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
55,204	57,480	62,423	65,107

Rate of Change Same as that of 1930-1960 (9.3 per cent)

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
55,389	57,850	63,230	66,170

II Projection Based on Percentage of Future South Carolina Population.

State Projection (000) (1)

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
2,543	2,732	3,094	3,293

Future County Population Based on 1960 County-State Ratio (2.2 per cent)

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
55,946	60,104	68,068	72,446

Future County Population Based on Average of 1930-1960 County-State Ratio (2.3 per cent)

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
58,489	62,836	71,162	75,739

Future County Population Based on varying County-State Ratios

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
(2.3%)	(2.4%)	(2.6%)	(2.6%)
58,489	65,568	80,444	85,618

Table 17 (cont.)

METHOD

III Projection Based on Percentage of Future National Population .

United States Projection (000) (1)

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
193,818	208,249	244,566	265,575

Future County Population Based on 1960 County-United States Ratio (.30 per cent)

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
58,145	62,475	73,370	79,673

Future County Population Based on Average of 1930-1960 County-United States Ratio (.33 per cent)

<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
63,960	68,722	80,707	87,640

IV Projections Based on Future Natural Increase and Migration Trends .

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>NON-WHITE</u>
1965	54,421	30,750	23,671
1970	56,249	32,319	23,930
1975	58,593	34,302	24,291
1980	61,118	36,412	24,706
1985	64,555	39,225	25,330

Summary of All Four Projections

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>
HIGH	63,960	68,722	80,707	87,640
LOW	54,207	55,486	57,733	58,719

(1) Population Estimates Series P-25, No. 326, February 7, 1966
United States Bureau of Census - using Series I-B.

The distribution of the future population in Darlington County is equally as important as the overall future total population. For this study the county was divided into four major divisions called districts: Society Hill, Hartsville, Darlington, and Lamar. These districts are consolidations of the county census divisions established by the Bureau of the Census for the 1960 census. An effort was made to follow as closely as possible the old minor Civil Divisions which were used in the 1930-1950 census. The four major districts are illustrated on Figure 2. The past and future populations of these districts are shown on Table 18. Existing and anticipated future development factors were used in estimating the projected population of these districts. Factors such as existing land use, industrial development trends, proximity to major regional population centers, and location of Interstate 20 and its interchanges were some of the factors considered in allocating future population to the four districts. Allocation of future population to specific cities such as Darlington and Hartsville was not made inasmuch as municipal boundaries are periodically subject to change.

The two large urban areas of the county, Hartsville and Darlington, and the area surrounding these cities will continue

Table 18
POPULATION DISTRIBUTION
Darlington County and Major Divisions

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>DARLINGTON</u> <u>COUNTY</u>	<u>SOCIETY HILL AREA</u>		<u>HARTSVILLE AREA</u>		<u>DARLINGTON AREA</u>		<u>LAMAR AREA</u>	
	<u>Population</u>	<u>Pop.</u>	<u>Per Cent</u> <u>Of County</u>	<u>Pop.</u>	<u>Per Cent</u> <u>Of County</u>	<u>Pop.</u>	<u>Per Cent</u> <u>Of County</u>	<u>Pop.</u>	<u>Per Cent</u> <u>Of County</u>
1940	45,198	3,487	7.7	18,929	41.9	15,489	34.3	7,293	16.1
1950	50,016	3,745	7.5	21,822	43.6	17,572	35.2	6,877	13.7
1960	52,928	3,930	7.4	24,611	46.5	16,888	31.9	7,499	14.2
1965	54,421	3,945	7.2	25,850	47.5	17,415	32.0	7,211	13.3
1970	56,249	4,078	7.3	26,296	46.7	18,281	32.5	7,594	13.5
1975	58,593	3,955	6.8	26,367	45.0	20,215	34.5	8,056	13.7
1980	61,118	3,973	6.5	26,586	43.5	22,461	36.7	8,098	13.3
1985	64,555	4,035	6.3	26,952	41.7	25,176	39.0	8,392	13.0

to contain the bulk of the county's population. The Society Hill and Lamar Districts will gain in population, but their overall gains will be slight as compared with the two remaining districts. The Darlington District should substantially increase its population because of its proximity to several growth stimulants (such as the Interstate highway and the dual lane highway to Florence, the Florence urban area, the County Seat with its increasing governmental activities) and because of the industrial gains presently being made by the City of Darlington and the surrounding area.

The Hartsville area will continue to be the major urban area, but its gains will probably be less than those of Darlington, mainly because it lacks most of those growth factors listed for the Darlington area. It is possible for the City of Hartsville to remain as the dominant retail center of the county but only if it continues to improve its central business district. Industrial and general commercial expansion as well as a high median income in the Hartsville District should continue to attract new residents and help to reduce the amount of out-migration currently faced by all four districts.

Chapter 2

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Darlington County

The economy of any area, be it a city, county, or metropolitan area, directly affects its population trends. In Darlington County, the constant out-migration of a large percentage of almost every age group between 1930 and 1960 could be related in great measure to the lack of variety of economic opportunity in the county. Counties with a predominantly rural population, such as Darlington County, will normally lose some of its population to large urban areas. There is also an established migration of nonwhite persons from the South to the North and West which has been occurring since the depression years of the 1930's.

These trends can be reversed only through a unified effort to expand the economic base of the county, thereby increasing employment opportunities and per capita incomes. The program of the Darlington County Development Board, acting with the cooperation of all the local elected officials and civic leaders, has an impressive record in attracting new industries to the county. Continuation of this vital program is essential to the future economic and social well-being of the county. Several major

economic indices have shown a substantial increase in the past few years which can probably be directly attributed to the new industry brought into the county by the Darlington County Development Board.

Labor Force and Employment

Major changes occurred in the size and composition of the civilian labor force in Darlington County from 1950 through 1965, as shown in Table 19. The civilian labor force increased 9.1 per cent through the addition of 1,594 persons of employment age. Employment in the county rose from 17,117 persons in 1950 to 17,940 in 1965. Civilian labor force and employment reached an all time high in 1963, but decreased after that. Unemployment in the county varied considerably during the 15 years and averaged 6.5 per cent from 1959 to 1965, which appears to be a relatively high average. Labor force participation rate, which is the percentage of the total population in the labor force, remained fairly constant between 1950 and 1965, contrary to national trends. Labor force as a percentage of total population is decreasing in many areas since more persons are staying in school more years and employed persons are retiring earlier. This trend should also occur in Darlington County in future years as the

Table 19

LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

Darlington County, 1950-1965

ITEM	1950 ⁽¹⁾		1960 ⁽²⁾		1961 ⁽²⁾		1962 ⁽²⁾		1963 ⁽²⁾		1964 ⁽²⁾		1965 ⁽²⁾		PER CENT CHANGE 1950-1965
	NUMBER	PER CENT	NUMBER	PER CENT	NUMBER	PER CENT	NUMBER	PER CENT	NUMBER	PER CENT	NUMBER	PER CENT	NUMBER	PER CENT	
Civilian Labor Force	17,506		18,510		18,210		20,140		20,910		20,050		19,100		9.1
Employed	17,117		17,600		16,930		19,010		19,370		18,410		17,940		4.8
Unemployed	389		910		1,280		1,130		1,540		1,640		1,160		198.2
Labor Force Participation Rate Employed	35.0		35.0		-		-		-		-		35.1 ⁽³⁾		- 3.5
Per Cent Unemployed	2.3		4.9		7.0		5.6		7.4		8.2		6.1		165.2
Nonagricultural Employment	12,139	70.9	13,570	77.1	12,870	76.0	15,260	80.3	15,720	81.2	15,270	82.9	15,540	86.6	28.0
Wage and Salary Workers, Except Domestic	9,728	56.8	10,850	61.6	10,350	61.1	11,730	61.7	12,230	63.2	11,940	64.9	12,390	69.1	27.4
Manufacturing	4,163	24.3	5,420	30.8	5,350	31.6	6,070	31.9	6,350	32.8	5,930	32.2	6,090	34.0	46.3
Food and Kindred Products	99	.6	180	1.0	200	1.2	230	1.2	270	1.4	250	1.3	280	1.6	182.8
Apparel and Other Finished Products	192	1.1	590	3.4	480	2.8	620	3.3	720	3.7	730	4.0	700	3.9	264.6
Lumber and Wood Products	630	3.7	570	3.2	540	3.2	530	2.8	500	2.6	500	2.7	520	2.9	-17.5
Textile	1,938	11.3	950	5.4	860	5.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Other Manufacturing	1,304	7.6	3,130	17.8	3,270	19.3	4,690	24.6	4,860	25.1	4,450	24.2	4,590	25.6	252.0
Contract Construction	698	4.1	500	2.8	330	2.0	400	2.1	450	2.3	420	2.3	470	2.6	-32.7
Transportation, Communication, and Other Public Utilities	407	2.4	320	1.8	350	2.1	390	2.1	400	2.1	420	2.3	400	2.2	-1.7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1,932	11.3	1,770	10.1	1,850	10.9	1,980	10.4	2,030	10.5	2,020	11.0	2,140	11.9	10.8
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	202	1.2	290	1.6	310	1.8	340	1.8	330	1.7	360	1.9	350	2.0	73.3
Service and Miscellaneous	1,034	6.0	1,020	5.8	1,090	6.4	1,230	6.5	1,300	6.7	1,400	7.6	1,490	8.3	44.1
Government	1,292	7.5	1,530	8.7	1,070	6.3	1,320	6.9	1,370	7.1	1,390	7.6	1,450	8.1	12.2
Self-employed, Unpaid Family Workers, and Domestic	2,411	14.1	2,720	15.5	2,520	14.9	3,530	18.6	3,490	18.0	3,330	18.0	3,150	17.5	30.7
Agricultural Employment	4,978	29.1	4,030	22.9	4,060	24.0	3,750	19.7	3,650	18.8	3,140	17.1	2,400	13.4	-51.8

(1) U. S. Census of Population, 1950, South Carolina.

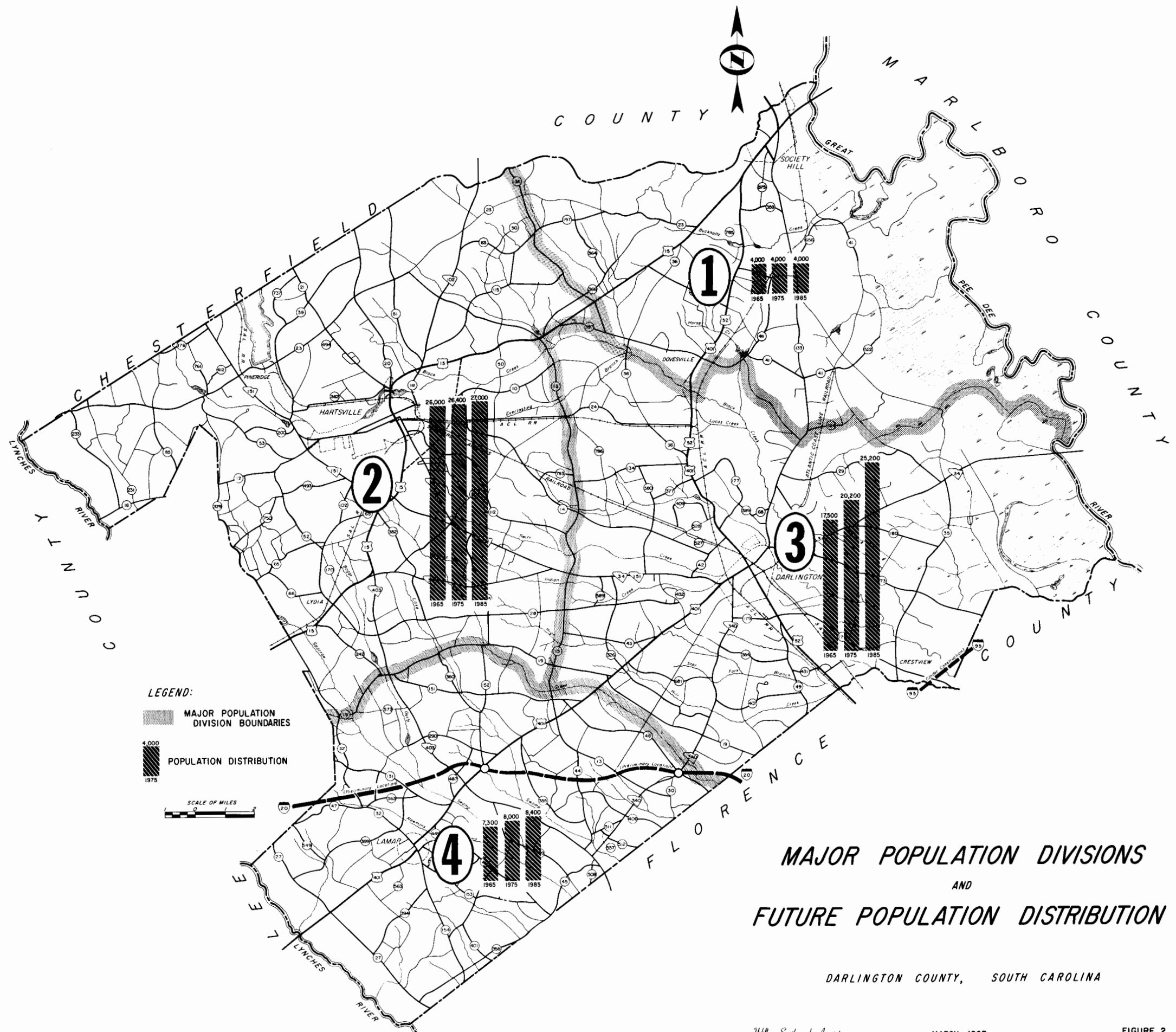
(2) South Carolina Employment Security Commission.

(3) Wilbur Smith and Associates.

county becomes more urbanized and more students remain in school past the age of 14.

As shown in Table 19, the composition of the employed labor force in Darlington County changed substantially after 1950. The most pronounced change was the significant decrease in agricultural employment, which in 1950 totaled 29.1 per cent of the labor force. By 1965, the group had decreased to 2,400 persons, or only 13.4 per cent of the civilian labor force, a decrease of 51.8 per cent. This drastic reduction could be attributed to several factors, among which are the out-migration of a large number of farm workers, particularly nonwhite, loss of farm labor to other employment activities in the county, and a decrease in the number of farms and improved farming methods which have reduced the amount of farm labor needed or required for successful farm operation.

While a reduction in farm labor could be beneficial to the county if the released labor is able to find productive employment within the county, a drastic reduction attributed to out-migration or general unemployment would definitely be to the detriment of the economic stability of the county. Agricultural income has always formed the backbone of the economic base of



Darlington County, and the successful operation of most southern farms is predicated to a great measure on a readily available labor supply. When this labor supply does not exist, farming in the county will suffer, which would be felt in many economic factors throughout the county.

Farms in Darlington County are decreasing in number but increasing in size, which often results in better farm operation, partly enabled through the use of mechanized equipment, which does replace some unskilled labor. Agricultural employment, however, should continue to be of importance to Darlington County.

While agricultural employment has been decreasing, non-agricultural employment has been increasing, especially manufacturing employment. Since 1950, manufacturing employment has increased 46.3 per cent through the addition of 1,927 persons to the manufacturing payrolls in the county. Employment gains have been made in almost every other nonagricultural employment category in the county. Table 19 shows that between 1950 and 1965, wage and salary workers increased 27.4 per cent, wholesale and retail trade workers increased 10.8 per cent, finance, insurance, and real estate employment increased 73.3 per cent, and government workers increased 12.2 per cent.

Employment losses have been recorded in the categories of lumber and wood products, transportation, communication and public utilities, and contract construction. The losses attributed to contract construction appear to be major, but they could possibly be attributed to an unusually large number in this category in 1950 when a large facility or group of buildings were being constructed, which would distort the percentage change between 1950 and 1965. Employment in the construction field has been increasing for the past few years, which is indicative of a healthy economic base.

Table 20, an inventory of average monthly employment for the years 1959-1965 and the second quarter of 1966 for employment covered by the South Carolina Employment Security Laws, shows that the average monthly employment as well as the annual payrolls for manufacturing and nonmanufacturing consistently increased during that period. These gains have not been as significant as the gains made by the state as a whole, but, nevertheless, they are a sign of an improving economic base. The total annual manufacturing payrolls increased 53.4 per cent, while the non-manufacturing payrolls increased 56.8 per cent, which represented a combined increase of \$15,324,000 over the 1959 payrolls.

AVERAGE MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND TOTAL ANNUAL PAYROLL

Darlington County

SOURCE: South Carolina Employment Security Commission.

Employment in the second quarter of 1966, which is the most recent official information available, shows that total employment has increased by 1,129 persons. Manufacturing employment has increased by 923 persons while nonmanufacturing employment has increased by 206 persons. These substantial increases again reflect the enormous improvements being made in the economic health of the county within the past three years. The final figures for the calendar year 1966, which will be available during the summer of 1967, should verify that these increases are permanent and not seasonal.

Table 21 lists the major manufacturing employers and demonstrates the variety and diversity of manufacturing within the county. Darlington County is indeed fortunate in not being dependent upon one major manufacturing establishment nor containing a preponderance of manufacturers producing the same or similar products. In time of national economic recession, Darlington County would probably be less affected than areas that do not have a broad economic base. This table also shows that since the Darlington County Development Board began its program of actively seeking industry for the county, over 1,000 new manufacturing jobs have been created in the county.

Table 21

MAJOR EMPLOYERS - Darlington County, 1966
As of February, 1967

<u>INDUSTRY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>YEARS FIRM BEGAN OPERATION</u>	<u>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>PRODUCT</u>
American Manufacturing Co.	Lamar	1961	90	Linens
Coker's Redigreed Seed Co.	Hartsville	1902	200	Agriculture testing and ex- perimentation
Darlington Veneer Company	Darlington	1918	200	Plywood
Dixie Cup	Darlington	1938	682	Paper cups, plates, containers, and lids
General Instrument Corp.	Darlington	1958	1,251	Capacities and other electrical products
Hartsville Manufacturing Co.	Hartsville	1948	505	Ladies' dresses
Hartsville Mill	Hartsville	1900	360	Manufacturers of cotton and synthetic goods
Hartsville Oil Mill	Hartsville	1900	120	Oil processing
International Mineral and Chemical Corp.	Hartsville	1908	93	Fertilizer blend
Klopman Mill, Inc.	Society Hill	1966	310	Textile finishing
Lamar Knitting Mills, Inc.	Lamar	1966	71	Hosiery
Perfection Gear Co.	Darlington	1965	530	Manufacturing of metal gears, clutch plates and speed reducers

Table 21 (Cont'd)

<u>INDUSTRY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>YEAR FIRM BEGAN OPERATION</u>	<u>TOTAL EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>PRODUCT</u>
H. R. Robinson Steam Electric Generating Plant	Hartsville	-	44	Electric power
Roller Bearing Corp.	Hartsville	1966	100	Bearings etc.
Sherman Manufacturing Co.	Darlington	1957	155	Ladies' dresses
Sonoco Products Co.	Hartsville	1899	2,500	Paper tubes, cones, and other textile carrier products
⁻⁵³⁻ Texlin Corporation	Hartsville	1965	20	Flax related products

SOURCE: Darlington County Development Board.

Productivity

Darlington County has made rapid strides in the securing of new industry for the county in recent years and also has encouraged existing industry to expand. This is reflected in Table 22, which illustrates the productivity in manufacturing by selected areas, which is the value added per man hour per employee. The productivity ratio is arrived at by dividing the total value received for the manufactured products by the total number of hours of production workers. This indicates the value produced by production workers and in turn indicates to some extent the type of employment offered in the county, whether it is high paying or low paying.

Darlington County has consistently been ahead of the state and the surrounding counties in productivity. This indicates that manufacturing employment in the county is composed of more "blue ribbon" companies than is generally found in South Carolina. Unfortunately, no data are available on a comprehensive basis since 1963, which would indicate the progress made in productivity since the 1963 Census of Business studies. It is felt, however, judging from the manufacturers drawn to Darlington

County since the program of the Darlington County Development Board was organized, that productivity in the county will reflect an even greater increase over 1963, especially in 1965 and 1966.

Darlington County, nevertheless, should be proud that the total value of manufactured products in the county in 1963 amounted to \$53,910,000, up from \$28,387,000 in 1954, a 90 per cent increase in only 10 years.

Most of the new industries which have located in the county in the past three years are paying wages which are considerably above the current average hourly wage paid by the older industries in the county. The average hourly wage of the 11 industries listed in Table 21 which were located in the county prior to 1964 is \$1.77, while the average hourly wage of the 5 new industries listed is \$1.98. This increase in hourly wages paid to production workers will help to decrease the out-migration of working age residents who heretofore may have felt that they could not obtain adequate employment in the county.

Table 22

PRODUCTIVITY IN MANUFACTURING BY SELECTED AREAS
1954-1963

<u>AREA</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>PER CENT INCREASE</u> <u>1954-1963</u>
United States	\$4.81	\$6.24	\$7.79	62.0
South Carolina	2.74	3.56	4.67	70.4
Darlington County	3.28	4.15	5.31	61.9
Chesterfield County	1.98	2.38	2.71	36.9
Florence County	2.15	2.94	5.02	133.5
Lee County	1.65	2.29	3.18	92.7
Marlboro County	2.24	3.44	3.83	71.0

SOURCE: Census of Manufactures, United States and South Carolina 1954-1963,
U. S. Bureau of the Census

Age and Sex Composition of Labor Force

An examination of 1960 census information shows that the distribution of the labor force in Darlington County paralleled that of the state. Table 23 shows that of the total labor force, 64 per cent was male and 36 per cent was female, which was approximately the same percentage distribution for the state.

The white and nonwhite groups were distributed in the county in approximately the same way as in the state. It is interesting to note that the percentage of females in the labor force in Darlington County was slightly higher than the percentage in the state, which is a reflection of the majority female population in Darlington County. This might be attributed to the fact that Darlington County contains several textile industries which employ a great many females, and when compared with all the counties of the state, this factor would slightly increase the employment of females in Darlington County.

Table 24 shows the age distribution of persons in the Darlington County labor force in 1960. Most of the labor force, both male and female, were between 18 and 45 years of age, 62.6 per cent for males and 66.4 per cent for females, but a large

Table 23

COMPOSITION OF LABOR FORCE

South Carolina And Darlington County

1960

<u>SOUTH CAROLINA</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> (per cent)	<u>WHITE</u> (per cent)	<u>NONWHITE</u> (per cent)
Male	65.3	67.1	60.9
Female	34.7	32.9	39.1

<u>DARLINGTON COUNTY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> (per cent)	<u>WHITE</u> (per cent)	<u>NONWHITE</u> (per cent)
Male	64.0	66.2	60.4
Female	36.0	33.8	39.6

SOURCE: United States Census of Population, 1960

Table 24

AGES OF PERSONS IN LABOR FORCE

Darlington County

1960

	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PER CENT</u>
<u>Male, 14 Years Old and Over</u>	15,659	100.0
<u>LABOR FORCE</u>	11,723	74.8
14 to 17 years old	616	5.2
18 to 24 years old	1,765	15.1
25 to 34 years old	2,629	22.4
35 to 44 years old	2,935	25.1
45 to 64 years old	3,369	28.7
65 years old and over	409	3.5
<u>Female, 14 Years Old and Over</u>	17,918	100.0
<u>LABOR FORCE</u>	6,606	36.9
14 to 17 years old	309	4.7
18 to 24 years old	1,163	17.6
25 to 34 years old	1,559	23.6
35 to 44 years old	1,663	25.2
45 to 64 years old	1,737	26.3
65 years old and over	175	2.6

 SOURCE: United States Census of Population, 1960

percentage of the labor force was in the 45 to 64 year old group. The age distribution of the labor force is often an important factor in the retention and securing of new manufacturing concerns and major commercial enterprises. Employers are usually interested in a fairly young labor force which can be trained for new skills and once trained will remain in their jobs a relatively long period. The county should also be interested in keeping its younger citizens in the local labor force rather than having them move away to seek employment elsewhere. With employment opportunities expanding in the county, as they have been doing in the past few years, the age distribution of the labor force should be changing with greater numbers in the younger groups. It should not be inferred that employment of persons over 45 years of age is undersirable; on the contrary, these are the years when employed residents often make their greatest contributions to the welfare of the county, and every effort should be made to "hold" these citizens rather than having them move away.

Of the new industries, which have located in the county in the past three years, approximately 900 new jobs have been created for male workers and approximately 160 jobs for females. This should materially decrease the out-migration of residents and should also pull new residents into the county. These new

industries have brought into the county many executive level personnel who have become residents of Darlington County.

Retail, Wholesale, and Selected Service Sales

Another important indicator of the general economic health of the county is the growth in retail sales, wholesale sales, and selected service trades. Between 1954 and 1963, retail sales in Darlington County increased 37 per cent. During this same period, however, retail sales in the state increased almost 50 per cent. This is shown in Table 25. Retail sales in the City of Darlington between 1954 and 1963 increased almost 24 per cent, while retail sales in Hartsville increased 48 per cent, or only slightly less than the state average. In 1963, Hartsville contained almost 53 per cent of all retail sales in Darlington County and has had a significant increase in the five years between 1958 and 1963, or 43 per cent. Obviously, Hartsville is the center of most retail sales activity in the county, a position it has held for a number of years.

Retail sales in the remainder of the county outside the two major cities, Darlington and Hartsville, have increased slowly over the past few years. As shown in Table 25, there was a healthy increase between 1954 and 1958, 37.8 per cent,

Table 25
RETAIL TRADE
By Selected Areas
1954 - 1963

<u>AREA</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>PER CENT CHANGE 1954-1963</u>	<u>ANNUAL RATE OF CHANGE</u>
Darlington County Total Sales (\$000)	\$31,119	\$33,626	\$42,755	37.3	3.7
City of Darlington Total Sales (\$000)	9,585	9,081	11,868	23.8	2.3
City of Hartsville Total Sales (\$000)	15,184	15,797	22,533	48.3	4.8
Remainder of County Total Sales (\$000)	6,350	8,748	8,354	33.5	3.1
South Carolina Total Sales (\$millions)	1,519	1,747	2,273	49.6	5.0

SOURCE: Census of Business, South Carolina, 1954, and 1963,
United States Bureau of Census.

but between 1958 and 1963 there occurred a decrease in sales of 4.7 per cent. Retail sales activity apparently is becoming more concentrated in and around the two urban areas of the county. If this trend continues, it could create an economic vacuum for retail activity in several parts of the county, especially in and around Lamar and Society Hill. Such an outcome could create a depressed economic condition in these areas which would be difficult to remedy. The two communities are within close shopping distance to both Hartsville and Darlington and do not contain sufficient population to maintain large commercial centers of their own. Therefore, residents of these areas will probably continue to do all but their convenience shopping in Darlington and Hartsville. The same eventuality is possible for other small communities within the county, such as Crestview, Dovesville, and Pine Ridge.

Volume of future retail activity in Darlington County will, of course, be dependent on many factors. Expansion of existing industrial facilities and the securing of new plants will in great measure affect retail sales since this one factor could control future population growth. County retail trade in the years ahead, barring a national or international calamity or local disaster, should increase at an annual rate more closely

in line with the past state trends. Retail trade in the City of Hartsville should increase at a more accelerated annual rate inasmuch as the Hartsville trade area is more extensive than those in other cities in the county.

Because of Darlington's proximity to the City of Florence, retail sales in Darlington will probably increase at only a slightly greater annual rate if they increase at all. Depending on future annexation activity of Darlington and Hartsville retail activity in the remainder of the county will probably maintain approximately the same rate of growth as the past ten years (1954-1963).

Wholesale sales in the county, as shown in Table 26, have increased much faster than retail sales. Between 1954 and 1963 there was a 107 per cent increase in wholesale sales as contrasted to a 49 per cent increase for the state. With the exception of the City of Darlington, wholesale sales showed substantial increases in all areas of the county. Like retail sales, however, figures for the cities are misleading inasmuch as large commercial establishments could be located adjacent to but outside corporate boundaries. This would be especially true of wholesale establishments, since these usually require large sites for warehousing and trucking facilities, and therefore are more apt to locate

Table 26

WHOLESALE TRADE
By Selected Areas
1954-1963

<u>AREA</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>PER CENT CHANGE</u> <u>1954-1963</u>	<u>ANNUAL</u> <u>RATE</u> <u>OF CHANGE</u>
Darlington County Total Sales (\$000)	\$19,763	\$25,674	\$40,983	107.4	10.7
City of Darlington Total Sales (\$000)	N.A. (1)	15,527	16,981	-	1.6
City of Hartsville Total Sales (\$000)	3,657	1,879	9,657	164.1	16.4
Remainder of County Total Sales (\$000)	N.A. (1)	3,268	14,345	-	12.2
South Carolina Total Sales (\$ millions)	1,341	1,605	1,993	48.6	4.8

(1) Not available

SOURCE: Census of Business, South Carolina, 1954 and 1963, United States Bureau of
Census

outside rather than inside corporate limits. This is probably the case for both Darlington and Hartsville, since wholesale establishments would be more likely to locate near their outlets, i.e., retail establishments.

Wholesale sales within the City of Darlington increased only gradually between 1958 and 1963 as compared with Hartsville. This could be attributed to the proximity of Darlington to the Florence trade area which could service the wholesale needs in Darlington but would be almost too far away to service the Hartsville area. Wholesale trade in the county should continue to increase at a rapid pace in future years as commercial and industrial activity grow. As with retail activity, it is difficult to predict future wholesale trends for the cities in the county, but wholesale sales in the Hartsville area should maintain an annual rate of growth similar to that of recent years. Darlington and its adjacent areas should increase only slightly because of their proximity to the Florence trade area, a factor which will also affect retail sales, as previously mentioned. Most future wholesale activity in the unincorporated areas of the county will be located close to the corporate boundaries of Hartsville and Darlington, and no significant increases are predicted for the rural areas, if any at all.

Selected services trade is shown in Table 27. This category includes establishments primarily engaged in rendering a wide variety of services to individuals and business establishments, such as hotels, rooming houses, camps, and other lodging places; personal services, miscellaneous business services; automobile repair and automobile services and garages; miscellaneous repair services; and motion pictures, amusement and recreation services.

Increases in the selected services category usually reflect a healthy economy inasmuch as people are less prone to spend money on amusements, repair services, and personal services when the economy is in a depressed condition. While sales in this category did not increase in the county as rapidly as in the state in general between 1954 and 1963, there was a significant increase, as shown in Table 27. There was a substantial increase in the unincorporated areas of the county, rising from \$285,000 in 1954 to \$977,000 in 1963. Included in this area would be the Darlington International Race Track, which is located outside the corporate limits of Darlington and which would account for a substantial portion of the annual amusement tax collected in the county.

Table 27

SELECTED SERVICES
By Selected Areas
1954-1963

<u>AREA</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>PER CENT CHANGES 1954-1963</u>	<u>ANNUAL RATE OF CHANGE</u>
Darlington County Total Sales (\$000)	\$ 2,208	\$ 3,512	\$ 4,022	82.2	8.2
City of Darlington Total Sales (\$000)	937	989	1,451	54.9	5.5
City of Hartsville Total Sales (\$000)	986	1,238	1,594	61.7	6.2
Remainder of County Total Sales (\$000)	285	1,285	977	242.8	24.3
South Carolina Total Sales (\$000)	123,440	180,812	253,567	105.4	10.5

SOURCE: Census of Business, South Carolina, 1954 and 1963, United States Bureau of Census.

Business in selected services throughout the county should increase during the planning period at an even greater rate than in the past few years. As population increases and per capita income rises, people will spend more on nonessential items than they have in the past. It is difficult to predict whether increases will occur in Darlington and Hartsville for several reasons. Corporate boundaries are subject to change and businesses located outside city limits may be annexed, depending on annexation laws and the attitude of municipal officials toward annexation of adjacent territory. Some personal services, such as auto repair, motels, and drive-in movies, want to be removed from urban development, and people generally do not mind longer drives to obtain these services. However, as with wholesale establishments, such services need to be fairly close to the population centers. For this reason selected services within the county but adjacent to Hartsville and Darlington should continue to grow at a healthy rate, but the rate of growth will probably be more in line with the state average, or approximately 10 per cent per year.

Agriculture

One of the most important segments of the economy of Darlington County is the income derived from the sale of farm

products. Agriculture has always played an important part in the history of Darlington County. Over 70 per cent of the land area of the county is used for farm land, a proportion that has decreased only slightly in recent years.

Table 28 shows that the county has consistently been ahead of the state as a whole in the value of land and buildings of its farms and also of the value of the farm products sold per farm. Between 1959 and 1964 the value of farm products sold per farm in the county increased 82.6 per cent while the increase for the state was 60.1 per cent. During the same period the number of farms in the county decreased by 769 farms, or 30 per cent, while the reduction statewide was 28 per cent. This does not mean, however, that 769 farms went out of business in the county between 1959 and 1964, only that they were acquired and combined with adjacent farms or in rare instances converted to other uses. During this period, the average size of a farm in Darlington County increased 40 per cent while the increase for the state was only 23 per cent. This trend in consolidation of farms and reduction in number appears to be a national trend and should continue into the future even in Darlington County.

Table 29 lists information on 1959 and 1964 farm tenure for the state and the county. It is interesting to note from

Table 28

FARM STATISTICS

By Selected Areas

	<u>SOUTH CAROLINA</u>		<u>DARLINGTON COUNTY</u>	
	<u>1959</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1964</u>
Approximate acres of land area	19,380,480	19,380,480	348,800	348,160
Proportion in farms (per cent)	47.2	41.9	72.9	71.1
Farms, acreage, and value				
Total farms	78,172	56,248	2,547	1,778
Acreage in farms	9,149,492	8,101,417	254,113	247,680
Average size of farm (acres)	117.0	144.0	99.8	139.3
Value of land and buildings				
Average per farm	\$14,463	\$26,220	\$13,649	\$28,853
Average per acre	\$ 138.9	\$ 179.8	\$ 171.8	\$ 200.4
Value of farm products sold	\$302,923,609	\$349,138,436	\$13,840,830	\$17,488,753
Average per farm	\$ 3,876	\$ 6,207	\$ 5,386	\$ 9,836

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, South Carolina and Darlington County, 1964,
U. S. Bureau of the Census.

Table 29

FARM OPERATORS BY TENURE AND COLOR

Selected Areas

	SOUTH CAROLINA				DARLINGTON COUNTY			
	<u>1959</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>
Total Farms	78,172	100.0	56,248	100.0	2,547	100.0	1,778	100.0
Full owners	38,908	49.8	30,008	53.3	781	30.6	512	28.8
White	29,314	37.5	22,687	40.3	632	24.8	396	22.3
Nonwhite	9,594	12.3	7,321	13.0	149	5.8	116	6.5
Part owners	14,129	18.1	12,412	22.1	438	17.2	429	24.2
White	9,382	12.0	8,786	15.6	318	12.5	323	18.2
Nonwhite	4,747	6.1	3,626	6.5	120	4.7	106	6.0
Managers	308	.3	298	.5	17	.7	15	.8
Tenants	24,827	31.8	13,530	24.1	1,311	51.5	822	46.2
White	8,191	10.5	4,875	8.7	289	11.3	204	11.5
Nonwhite	16,636	21.3	8,655	15.4	1,022	40.2	618	34.7

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture, South Carolina and Darlington County, 1964,
U. S. Bureau of the Census.

this table that the percentage of full owners of farms in Darlington County is considerably less than the state average and that the percentage of full owners in the county has been decreasing rather than increasing as it has been for the state. Part ownership of farms in Darlington County is increasing, which could be due to the increase in the size of farms, possibly through the consolidation of adjoining farms under separate ownership into one farm jointly owned by two or more farmers. Tenant farmers in the county (the largest percentage of farm operators) have been decreasing, which follows the state trends, but the percentage of farms operated by tenants in the county is almost twice the percentage for the state.

Miscellaneous Economic Indices

Other indicators of economic growth in a county are revealed through an examination of postal receipts, bank deposits, and assessed valuations. In Darlington County, postal receipts of the five post offices in the county increased 11.0 per cent between 1964 and 1966, while the increase between 1965 and 1966 amounted to 9.2 per cent. Discussions held with the postmasters throughout the county revealed that postal receipts for the current fiscal year are running substantially ahead of last year,

again indicating an improving economic picture. Table 30 shows the postal receipts of the post offices in the county for the fiscal years 1964-1966.

Table 30

POSTAL RECEIPTS

Darlington County, South Carolina

1964 - 1966

	<u>FISCAL YEAR 1964</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR 1965</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR 1966</u>
Darlington	\$162,423	\$172,829	\$201,517
Hartsville	274,116	273,223	283,365
Lamar	20,227	18,561	20,040
Lydia	1,309	1,369	4,311
Society Hill	<u>8,465</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>8,800</u>
TOTAL	\$466,540	\$474,482	\$518,033

Total bank deposits in Darlington County have increased substantially over the past few years. In 1960, deposits amounted to \$23,304,300. In 1964, deposits in the five banking institutions in the county had increased to approximately \$29,752,000 and in 1966 to approximately \$35,150,000, an 18.1 per cent increase over 1964. Detail dollar value information

of deposits for 1964 and 1966 was not available since the two national banks in the county are part of a larger banking system and information on their deposits is available only on a total firm basis and not on an individual bank or branch basis. These banks did furnish a percentage estimate of their growth, which was then converted to an approximate dollar value and added to total deposits of the other banks within the county. While a more detailed dollar figure for deposits of the two national banks would have been helpful, the estimate of total deposits obtained is felt to be suitable for the purpose of this study.

The tremendous gains in bank deposits in Darlington County between 1964 and 1966 again reflect the healthy economic growth within the county. The increase of approximately \$5,397,000 in only two years adequately demonstrates that per capita and family income is rapidly rising and that residents of the county, while enjoying an improved standard of living, still have enough money remaining from the necessary family living expenses to invest in savings accounts and savings certificates.

While postal receipts and bank deposits have been rapidly increasing, the assessed value of property in the county has also increased significantly. Table 31 shows the increases attained

in real property, personal property, and the total assessed property within the county for the years, 1964, 1965, and 1966.

Table 31
ASSESSED VALUATION
Darlington County

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>REAL PROPERTY</u>	<u>PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1966	\$8,640,000	\$14,620,740	\$23,242,740
1965	8,349,835	13,036,092	21,385,927
1964	8,080,662	11,144,163	19,224,825

Total assessed valuation in the county increased 11.2 per cent between 1964 and 1965 and 8.7 per cent between 1965 and 1966. Discussions held with the County Tax Assessor indicate that assessed valuations in the county are substantially ahead of last year and should again show a very healthy rate of increase.

Future Employment

Employment and unemployment in Darlington County in future years are based to a great extent on the progress made in retaining the existing industries and in securing new industrial and commercial concerns. It is difficult to predict with any great degree of accuracy future national economic patterns, but, based on past local trends, employment should remain high within the county. Table 32 shows projections of future employment by category in both numbers and percentages. The labor force participation rate, or the percentage of the population obtaining or seeking employment, will decrease in line with national trends which were previously discussed.

Nonagricultural employment should continue to increase in the county so that by the end of the planning period, 1985, this category should account for almost 90 per cent of all employment. Agricultural employment should continue to decrease, which does not mean that farm income will cease to be an important segment of the local economic base. Farms probably will continue to decrease in numbers but increase in size with an ever-increasing rise in farm income. Continuous gain in employment should occur in manufacturing, transportation,

Table 32

EMPLOYMENT PROJECTIONS

Darlington County

ITEM	1960		1965		1970	
	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Population	52,928	100.0	54,421	100.0	56,249	100.0
Civilian Labor Force	18,510	-	19,100	-	19,406	-
Labor Force Participation Rate	35.0	-	35.1	-	34.5	-
Employed	17,600	95.1	17,940	93.9	18,533	95.5
Unemployed	910	4.9	1,160	6.1	873	4.5
Nonagriculture Employment	13,570	77.1	15,540	86.6	16,216	87.5
-78- Wage and Salary Workers, exc. Domestics	10,850	61.6	12,390	69.1	13,584	73.3
Manufacturing	5,420	30.8	6,090	34.0	6,579	35.5
Contract Construction	500	2.8	470	2.6	519	2.8
Trans.,Comm.,and Other Public Utilities	320	1.8	400	2.2	463	2.5
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1,770	10.1	2,140	11.9	2,317	12.5
Finance, Ins., and Real Estate	290	1.6	350	2.0	408	2.2
Service and Miscellaneous	1,020	5.8	1,490	8.3	1,686	9.1
Government	1,530	8.7	1,450	8.1	1,612	8.7
Self Employed	2,720	15.5	3,150	17.5	2,632	14.2
Agricultural Employment	4,030	22.9	2,400	13.4	2,317	12.5

SOURCE: 1960 and 1965, South Carolina Employment Security Commission.
1970-1985, Wilbur Smith and Associates.

Table 32 (Cont'd)

ITEM	1980		1985	
	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Population	61,118	100.0	64,555	100.0
Civilian Labor Force	20,780	-	21,626	-
Labor Force Participation Rate	34.0	-	33.5	-
Employed	19,949	96.0	20,761	96.0
Unemployed	831	4.0	865	4.0
Nonagriculture Employment	17,695	88.7	18,540	89.3
Wage and Salary Workers, exc. Domestics	15,062	75.5	15,924	76.7
Manufacturing	7,481	37.5	7,931	38.2
Contract Construction	419	2.1	436	2.1
Trans., Comm., and Other Public Utilities	539	2.7	561	2.7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	2,434	12.2	2,574	12.4
Finance, Ins., and Real Estate	499	2.5	540	2.6
Service and Miscellaneous	1,855	9.3	1,952	9.4
Government	1,835	9.2	1,930	9.3
Self Employed	2,633	13.2	2,616	12.6
Agricultural Employment	2,254	11.3	2,221	10.7

SOURCE: 1960 and 1965, South Carolina Employment Security Commission.
1970-1985, Wilbur Smith and Associates.

communications, and public utilities, finance, insurance and real estate, service and miscellaneous categories, and in government. Decreases should be felt in the self-employed category and in contract construction, while wholesale and retail trade will reach a peak in 1970 and then decrease. The construction and retail and wholesale trades will not experience a decrease in sales or income but rather will require fewer employees through the use of improved merchandising and new construction methods.

With future employment forecast at 96 per cent of the civilian labor force, most of which would be in manufacturing, Darlington County should have a stable and prosperous economic base with which to finance the future needs of the county. Employment opportunities should exist within the county for almost everyone who wants to secure employment, which should eliminate the out-migration currently taking place in the county. The materialization of the forecast employment will, however, be based upon the attitude and deeds of the elected officials and civic leaders within the county. Only through the continued cooperation of this group will the county grow and prosper as it is now and as it should in the future.

Chapter 3

EXISTING NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Darlington County is located in the northeastern portion of South Carolina and is bounded on the north by Chesterfield County, on the south by Florence County, on the east by Marlboro County, and on the west by Lee County. The county seat, Darlington, is approximately 70 miles northeast of Columbia, the state capital, and approximately 105 miles north of Charleston, South Carolina. The elevation at the city of Darlington is 224 feet, and the county is composed of fairly level to gently sloping land.

Climate

The following data, as released by the U. S. Weather Bureau, depicts the generally mild weather enjoyed by residents of the county.

Annual average precipitation	45.9"
Mean annual temperature	62.9°F
Mean January temperature	45.3°F
Mean July temperature	80.0°F
Number of clear days	178
Number of partly cloudy days	94

Average number of growing days	224
Last killing frost date in spring	March 26
First killing frost date in autumn	November 6

Public Utilities and Fuel Supply

Darlington County is adequately serviced by utilities, including water, electricity, telephones, and natural gas facilities. Electricity is available through the Carolina Power and Light Company and the Pee Dee Electric Cooperative. Telephone service is available through the General Telephone Company, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, and the Farmers Telephone Cooperative. Two natural gas lines are located within the county, and coal and fuel oil are available for purchase.

Water Supply

The Cities of Darlington and Hartsville have municipal water systems which are adequate for their present needs; however, the cities of Lamar and Society Hall as well as other areas within the county need additional water supply. There are two large rivers within the county: the Pee Dee, which forms the eastern boundary of the county, and the Lynches River, which divides Darlington County from Lee County. A detailed water resources

study is beyond the scope of this report; however, a study of this type should be undertaken in order to determine the adequacy of the existing ground and underground water supply. Numerous small lakes and ponds are located in the county. Lake Robinson, north of Hartsville, contains over 2,500 acres and is over 10 miles in length. This recently constructed lake affords numerous recreational advantages for the county and is fully utilized by residents of the county for recreational purposes.

A comprehensive recreational study of this excellent facility is presently being considered, which could further increase its recreational potential.

Minerals and Raw Materials

At the present time, no minerals or raw materials which would be profitable or practicable to exploit have been discovered in the county.

Transportation Facilities

Darlington County is serviced by an excellent network of county, state, and federal highways which transverse all sections of the county. There are over 600 miles of state and federal highways in the county, 90 per cent of which are paved.

The county also contains two railroad facilities, the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company and the Seaboard Airline Railroad, as well as two bus lines, Greyhound and Trailways. Direct commercial airline service to Darlington County is presently unavailable, but commercial service is available from the Florence Municipal Airport, which is less than 15 miles from the City of Darlington.

Technical Educational Facilities

Darlington County is extremely fortunate in having one of the most active technical educational facilities in the state located only a few miles from its southeastern border. The Florence-Darlington Technical Educational Center, which was opened in the spring of 1964, is located midway between Florence and Darlington on U. S. Highway 52. This half-million-dollar facility has already provided training for more than 15,000 persons in the surrounding 7 counties and after only 3 years of operation is involved in a million-dollar expansion program. There are presently 280 students attending day classes and another 1,400 students in night classes and other training programs. The facility has long been needed to provide technical training for the many residents of the county who have not completed high school and who need to

learn new skills in order to obtain employment in the new and expanding industries in the area.

Recreational Facilities

With a mild annual temperature, outdoor recreation is extremely popular in the county. Facilities are available for almost every type of sport, but, as in most counties, these facilities are located in or near the urban centers of the county. A detailed evaluation of the recreational facilities within the county, both private and public, is beyond the limits of this report and will be included in further planning studies. The county does possess some fine recreational facilities, such as the athletic fields and stadiums in Darlington and Hartsville and an 18-hole golf course in each of these two cities.

Chapter 4

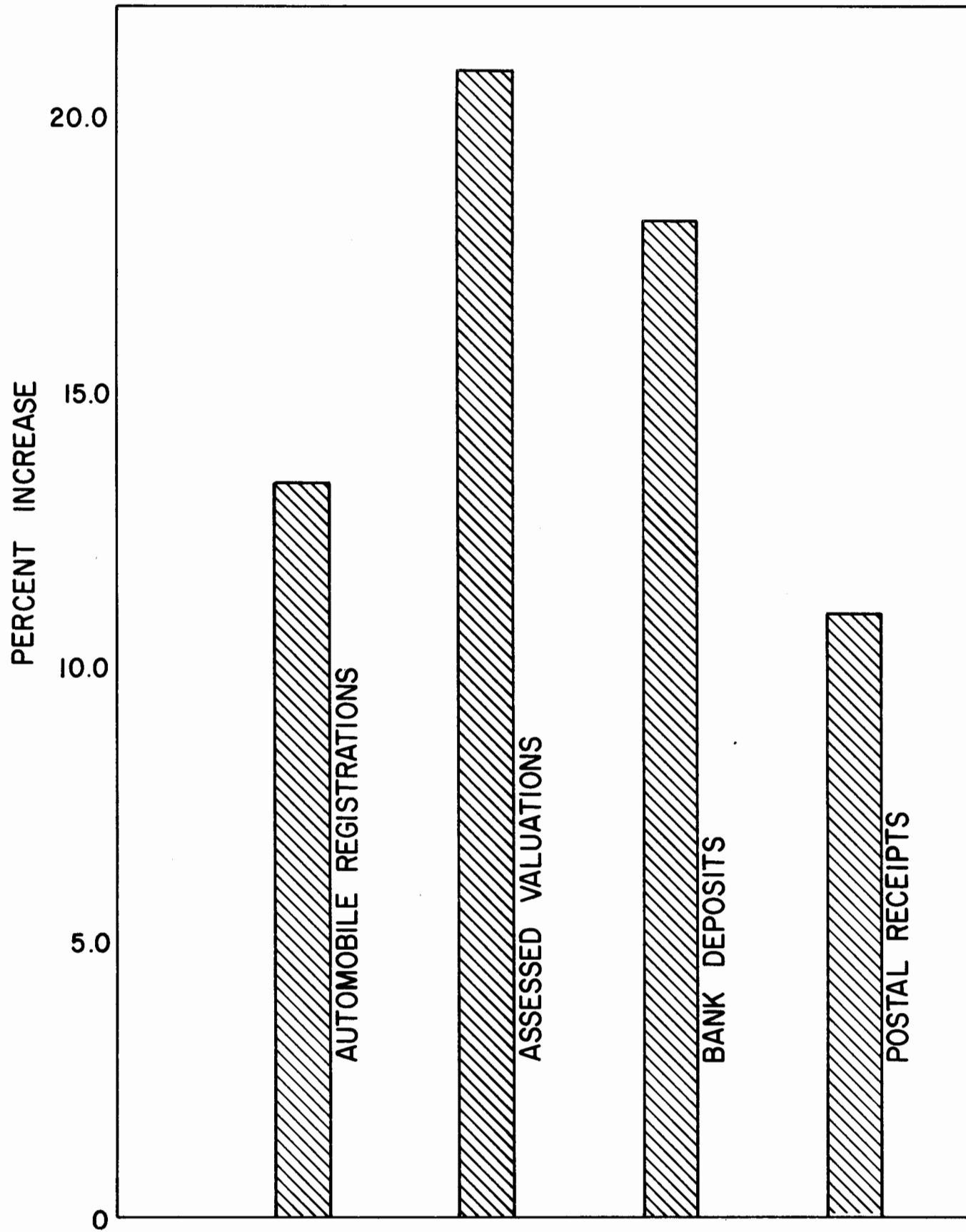
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Rapid strides have been made in recent years in Darlington County to expand and diversify the economic base of the county. By so doing, much of the data examined in this report is undergoing drastic change. The extent of these improvements and changes and its effect on the population will not be known to any degree of certainty until the 1970 census is taken and the results published.

A summarization of the major socio-economic indices explored in this report is useful to demonstrate the important changes which have occurred in Darlington County in the past three years.

First and probably most important are the increases which have occurred in the various employment categories in the county. Total employment between 1964 and the second quarter of 1966 increased 6.1 per cent, while manufacturing employment increased 17.6 per cent and nonmanufacturing employment increased 14.1 per cent. These substantial increases will have a profound effect on nearly every socio-economic parameter in the county, as reflected in the following statistics and graphically illustrated on Figure 3.

*CHANGES IN SELECTED GROWTH INDICATORS
1964-1966
DARLINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA*



Wilbur Smith and Associates

MARCH, 1967

FIGURE 3

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>INCREASE 1964-1966</u>
Automobile Registrations	13.2 per cent
Assessed Valuations	20.9 per cent
Bank Deposits	18.1 per cent
Postal Receipts	11.0 per cent

Major credit for the substantial upsurge in the economic growth of Darlington County lies with the Darlington County Development Board. This agency, which was organized in the spring of 1964, has in three short years produced an impressive record of attracting new industry to the county. Since the Board began its tireless efforts, more than 900 new industrial jobs have been created and filled, mostly by local residents.

It is difficult to verify the exact increase in non-manufacturing employment in the county which has occurred as a result of this tremendous industrial expansion, but it surely totals in the hundreds. The benefits of this far-reaching and imaginative program are felt by almost every resident of Darlington County as well as the surrounding counties. The program of this Board, which has operated at an insignificant cost to the taxpayers of the county, could well be used as a national model of what can be done when intelligent and determined civic leaders operate in

unison to conquer a most persistent problem, namely, the economic stagnation of one of South Carolina's most important counties. This Board has been and is fortunate in its extremely capable leadership, with its former Chairman, Mr. A. Lee Chandler, who organized and guided the commission through its very important early years, and the present, most able Chairman, Mr. Thomas W. Buchanan, as well as all the members of the Board, past and present, who should feel extremely proud in their tremendous accomplishments.

At the present time, Darlington County does not appear to have any serious economic weaknesses that are not uncommon to most South Carolina counties. With a 1985 projected population of almost 65,000, the continued strengthening and expansion of the economic base of the county is mandatory. It is hoped that this report, which is a part of the initial countywide planning program, will lay the groundwork for the building of an even greater Darlington County.

S. C. STATE LIBRARY